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*--photography available--*

**PROTÉGÉ OF ITZHAK PERLMAN, VIOLINIST DAVID LISKER PRESENTS SPECIAL  
CONCERT CELEBRATING THE LIVES AND MUSIC OF COMPOSERS FROM THE  
HOLOCAUST**

*The event, titled “Echoes of Hope,” will feature an inspiring program of classical works by 9 composers performed by renowned artists in honor of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War II.*

**8:30 PM, May 9, 2015 at Merkin Concert Hall, NY** - Acclaimed violinist, David Lisker, a Juilliard graduate and former student of legendary violinists Itzhak Perlman and Pinchas Zukerman, is presenting an unforgettable event celebrating the lives and music of 9 Jewish composers directly affected by the Holocaust, 8 of whom perished in the concentration camps. The concert will take place on May 9<sup>th</sup>, the day the Nazis surrendered to Russia precisely 70 years ago. David and 5 other acclaimed musicians will perform an array of works by these inspiring individuals who, if had been allowed to realize their potential, might have changed the course of music in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The program will be performed by violinists David Lisker and Regi Papa, violist Cong Wu, cellist Michael Katz, soprano Meredith Lustig, and pianist Renana Gutman. It will feature the Piano Trio by **Mieczyslaw Weinberg**, selections from string quartets by **Erwin Schulhoff**, songs by **Ilse Weber**, **Pavel Haas**, and **Carlo Taube**, movements from string trios by **Hans Krasa** and **Gideon Klein**, the first movement of Piano Sonata no. 7 by **Viktor Ullmann**, the only surviving composition by **Robert Dauber**, as well as beloved works by Joseph Achron and Ernest Bloch.

**David Lisker**, recipient of the prestigious 2014 JUF Tikkun Fellowship Grant, has been described as an “exquisite virtuoso violinist” (*Chicago Sun-Times*) whose “playing possesses a deeply profound musical instinct” (*The Classical Network*) and a “cultivated artistic taste” (*Kulturas Diena, Latvia*). Since arriving in the United States from Russia in 1990, David has gone performed all over the world including Carnegie Hall and Avery Fisher Hall, Israel’s Mann Auditorium, China’s Shanghai Theater, Ecuador’s Casa de la Musica, and Ottawa’s National Arts Centre. He has performed on the PBS television broadcast of “Live from Lincoln Center,” was featured on Bob Sherman’s “Young Artist Showcase” on WQXR, and was the only violinist ever to appear on David Dubal’s “Piano Matters” on WWFM Radio.

Hailed as “an exciting young violinist with brilliant technique and an excellent sense of style” (*The Strad Magazine*), violinist **Regi Papa** has dazzled audiences on both sides of the Atlantic. In his native Greece, Regi has been heard in such prestigious venues as the Athens Concert Hall, the Pallas Hall, the Parnassos Hall, and the Athenaeum Hall. He made his Carnegie Hall debut in 2006, performing the Sibelius Violin Concerto with the New York Senior Concert Orchestra under the baton of David Gilbert, and has also appeared as featured soloist with the New York Symphonic Arts Ensemble and the Manhattan School of Music Philharmonia. Regi is a graduate of the Manhattan School of Music and the Juilliard School, and is currently pursuing his doctorate at Stony Brook University as a student of Soovin Kim and Phil Setzer.

As the Robertson Prize winner of the 13th Primrose International Viola Competition, violist **Cong Wu** has given concerts all across the United States, Canada, Mexico, Germany, and much of Asia. As an avid chamber musician, Cong has collaborated with such renowned artists as Shmuel Ashkenasi, Christoph Eschenbach, Paul Katz, and Itzhak Perlman. Cong Wu holds his Bachelor of Music degree from the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, China where he studied with Mr. Wing Ho. He then went on to earn his Master of Music degree from Juilliard where he studied with Heidi Castleman and Hsin-yun Huang. Cong is currently pursuing his doctorate at the Manhattan School of Music where he is studying with Pinchas Zukerman and Patinka Kopec.

Described by the press as “outstanding” and “warm-toned,” Israeli cellist **Michael Katz** has appeared as a soloist and chamber musician in concerts throughout North America, Europe and Israel in such venues as Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, the Kennedy Center, Jordan Hall, Peter Jay Sharp Theater, Merkin Hall, Philips Hall in Eindhoven Netherlands, Monaco Theatre Hall, and the Jerusalem Music Center. Winner of all three categories at the 2011 Aviv Competition, Michael has also won first prizes at the Juilliard Concerto Competition, the Turjeman Competition; and as the cellist of the the Lysander Piano Trio, he won the 2012 Concert Artists Guild Victor Elmaleh Competition. Michael received his Bachelor Degree from the New England Conservatory where he studied with Laurence Lesser and his Master Degree from Juilliard where he studied with Joel Krosnick.

Praised by the New York Sun for playing “with great vigor and aplomb” and for the “true poetry in her phrasing”, **Renana Gutman** has performed across three continents as an orchestral soloist, recitalist, and collaborative artist. She won top prize at the Los Angeles Liszt Competition, performed in the renowned International Keyboard Festival in New York City, and was 1 of 4 pianists to be selected by legendary pianist, Leon Fleisher, to participate in his Beethoven Piano Sonata Workshop in Carnegie Hall. Renana has soloed with the Jerusalem Symphony, Haifa Symphony, Belgian “I Fiamminghi,” and Mannes College Orchestra; she has performed at the Stresa Music Festival (Italy), Ravinia Rising Stars and Dame Myra Hess Concert Series (Chicago); and she has been heard in such prestigious venues as St. Petersburg’s Philharmonia Hall (Russia); Carnegie Hall’s Weill Hall and Rockefeller University (New York); Jordan Hall (Boston); Herbst Theatre (San Francisco); and the Washington National Gallery. Renana earned her Bachelor’s and Master’s of Music Degrees at the Mannes College of Music as a student of Richard Goode, and is currently faculty at the 92<sup>nd</sup> Street Y Music School and Bard College’s Precollege Division.

American soprano, **Meredith Lustig** is already establishing herself as an emerging artist of great distinction. She was the regional winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, she has sung in Boston’s Symphony Hall as a soloist on the national radio show “From the Top;” and has performed at Carnegie Hall’s Weill Recital Hall with the New York Festival of Song, Alice Tully Hall, and at Lincoln Center’s Peter Jay Sharp Theater. Ms. Lustig made her New York City Opera debut in 2011, her Chicago Symphony debut in 2013, and most recently completed a 2 year Resident Artist Program with the Pittsburgh Opera. Miss Lustig earned both her Bachelor and Master Degrees from Juilliard.

General Admission: \$30 • Student Tickets: \$15  
For tickets call **212-501-3330** or visit **[www.KaufmanMusicCenter.org](http://www.KaufmanMusicCenter.org)**  
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# Echoes of Hope

**Ernest Bloch**

Prayer

**Erwin Schulhoff**

Alla Czeca from 5 Pieces for String Quartet  
Cavatine from Divertimento for String Quartet, op. 14  
Alla Tarantella from 5 Pieces for String Quartet

**Gideon Klein**

1<sup>st</sup> Movement (Allegro) from String Trio

**Hans Krasa**

Fugue from Passacaglia and Fugue for String Trio

**Robert Dauber**

Serenade

**Viktor Ullmann**

1<sup>st</sup> Movement (Allegro) from Piano Sonata no. 7

**Joseph Achron**

Hebrew Dance

**Carlo Taube**

[Ein Jüdisches Kind](#)

**Ilse Weber**

Wiegala

**Pavel Haas**

Pripoved & Krotka Holubicka from Sedm Pisni

**Ernest Bloch**

Nigun

*-intermission-*

**Mieczyslaw Weinberg**

Piano Trio, Op. 24

*I. Praludium un Arie: Larghetto*

*II. Toccata: Allegro marcato*

*III. Poem: Moderato*

*IV. Finale: Allegro Moderato*